



HALEY BARBOUR
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**GOVERNOR BARBOUR AWARDED 2008 ADAM SMITH MEDAL
FOR RESPONSIBLE, EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP**

(JACKSON, Mississippi)—A national policy organization is honoring Governor Haley Barbour for his responsible, effective leadership as Mississippi's 63rd governor. The Friends of Adam Smith presents the award annually to an elected official whose actions, philosophy, and record of performance demonstrate a commitment to the principles of free enterprise.

Describing Barbour as a "champion of good government and a worthy successor to Adam Smith's ideals of free commerce, low taxation and the use of individual talent to produce the best possible results," the organization will present the 2008 Adam Smith Medal to Governor Barbour during a banquet tonight in Washington, D.C.

"It's an honor to receive this distinction, but the greatest honor has been our success in creating more and better jobs for Mississippians through smart, conservative fiscal policies," Governor Barbour said. "By adhering to the basic principles of free enterprise, we're successfully moving Mississippi in the right direction."

Since Governor Barbour took office in 2004, Mississippi has enjoyed record employment with more and higher paying jobs. The Friends of Adam Smith Chairman Todd Flemming said Governor Barbour is "forging a new path for Mississippi" and that his policies are "clearly making a difference."

The Friends of Adam Smith was established in 2000 by the board of Directors of the Business Industry Political Action Committee (BIPAC) along with many of its members. The organization promotes the ideals of free enterprise and researches the link between politics, public policy and economic freedom. Previous recipients of the award include Senators Ben Nelson (D-NE), Jon Kyl (R-AZ), and Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), and Representatives Anne Northup (R-KY), Charlie Stenholm (D-TX), John Boehner (R-OH) and Cass Ballenger (R-NC).

Adam Smith was a philosopher and professor at the University of Glasgow, Scotland. The publication of Smith's "An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations" in 1776 is one of the most influential works in history. He argued, in effect, the "wealth" of a nation is the productive energies of its people. The influence of his work is so great that Smith

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is considered the founder of the study of economics and widely credited with defining and establishing the concept of free market capitalism.

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